

Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I find the exchange between the Chair, the ranking member, and the gentlewoman from Texas to be very interesting; I appreciate the sensitivity with which it is being approached by the subcommittee as we move on to conference. I hope that there will be a way, sooner, rather than later, that we can have a broader conversation about export controls and about dual use technology, because I am hearing on a regular basis that we are not correlating these in ways that are in the best interest of our national security and in terms of the way that we are practicing technology control in the ordinary course of business.

Now, in the International Relations Committee we have fallen a little short of the mark because we haven't come forward with legislation under our jurisdiction dealing with an update of this issue. I would hope that the conversation that the chairman talks about could be done in a broader context in terms of what we are doing, to make sure that we are not driving other areas of technology overseas and working to our competitive disadvantage.

I have also heard stories that I believe to be credible, which I look forward to maybe advancing further with the distinguished gentleman, where there have been situations where our allies are using our equipment, but we have artificial barriers in place to be able to have them use things like spare parts and technical manuals to be able to use them. I've heard there are odd sorts of jerry-rigged solutions that take place in the theater of battle that look to be on their face nonsensical and perhaps driving people to do things that in the long run may provide problems for protecting our technology.

While I have no objection to this amendment and I appreciate the words of the chairman, I am hopeful that this can be done in a broader context to make sure that we are achieving our objectives, not freezing things in amber rather working against the long-term interests of both American business and American technology.